SOUTH VIET NAM In Struggle

7th Year – November 12, 1973

No 222

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CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

Great achievement in the diplomatic field

A joint conference of the Presidium and the Secretariat of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation Central Committee, the Advisory Council and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of South Viet Nam, and the Standing Committee of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, was held on November 2 and 3 in a liberated area of South Viet Nam to hear a report made by Lawyer **Nguyen Huu Tho,** *President of the Presidium of the NFLCC and President of the Advisory Council on the splendid success of his official participation in the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries in Algiers, and his visit to a number of African and European countries.*

An ensuing communiqué said the conference had fully approved the report on the successes of the PRG in the diplomatic field in the recent months.

It recalled that the Algiers Summit Conference had warmly praised the victory of the Vietnamese nation, and recognized Viet Nam as the standard bearer of the national liberation movement, the Republic of South Viet Nam as a full member of the movement of the Non-Aligned Countries, and the PRG as the only authentic representative of the South Vietnamese people.

The communiqué said: "This is a brilliant victory of the people and combatants of South Vietnamese and the people and combatants throughout the country, who have overcome untold hardships in their decades-long struggle. This is a great achievement of the correct line of revolution in South Viet Nam and the correct line of the Vietnamese revolution while the biggest failure of the US imperialists and the Nguyen Van Thieu administration in their attempts to distort the great patriotic fight of the Vietnamese people and belittle the role of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government."

The communiqué also laid stress on the profound friendship and valuable support given by the leaders, governments and peoples of Algeria, Senegal, Yugoslavia, Egypt, Tanzania and Uganda to the Vietnamese people's patriotic struggle against US imperialism. "In this struggle against the US imperialist and the Nguyen Van Thieu junta for a strict implementation of the Agreement and the Joint Communiqué of Paris, the NFL and the PRG are resolved to increase incessantly their militant solidarity and fraternal friendship with the Soviet Union, China, and the other socialist countries, and enhance further their solidarity and friendship with the Non-Aligned Countries, all the other nations and forces advocating peace and justice, and all progressive in the world including those in the United States," the communiqué stressed.

It pointed out that as the basic scheme of the US imperialists remained the same the continuation of the "Nixon doctrine" — and as the Nguyen Van Thieu junta, instigated and assisted by the US, kept trying to nibble at the liberated zone, hostilities were going on and peace had not been restored in South Viet Nam, and the South Vietnamese people and the NFL and the PRG, therefore, would resolutely continue the struggle for a strict implementation of the Paris Agreement by the US and the Saigon administration.

COMING back from a long voyage, we are very glad to see you all in good health; we are so delighted to meet you all here. We would like to extend to you our warm greetings, and to convey to you the kith-and-kin sentiments of our dear compatriots in the North and the warm feelings of our friends in the great family of the Non-Aligned nations and the countries which we have visited.

Early in September last, in furtherance of the decision of the Presidium of the NFL Central Committee, the Advisory Council and the Council of the PRG of the RSVN, I led a delegation of the PRG to attend the Summit Conference of non-aligned Countries. As you have known, the delegation included Foreign Minister NGUYEN THI BINH, Minister NGUYEN VAN HIEU, Vice-Foreign Minister HOANG BICH SON, Mr HO XUAN SON, member of the secretariat of the NFL Central Committee, Colonel DUONG DINH THAO, the Ambassadors of the RSVN to Algeria, Cuba, Syria, and a number of other high-ranking cadres of the RSVN.

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Active contributions to Algiers Summit's success

THE fourth Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries was held in Algiers, capital of heroic Algeria. The Conference was a broad assembly of heads of state, such as presidents, emperors, chiefs of state, or heads of government, such as prime ministers, chairmen of councils of ministers, of nearly 80 countries. This is the biggest gathering in history of heads of state, representing two thirds of the countries in the world with a population of over two billion inhabitants, that is to say over half of the world population. Participating in the Conference were delegates from countries of Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Europe, but the bigger part were African and Asian delegates. The big attendance to the Conference marked a tremendous development of the movement of Non-Aligned countries. While the first conference in Belgrade had only 25 countries attending, this one held in Algiers assembled nearly 80 official member-countries and over 20 delegations of national liberation movements or of observer-countries. The development of the

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Great achievement...

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movement was also clearly reflected in the work done at the Conference, from the speeches made at the sessions to the Resolutions and the Joint Declaration of the Conference.

The delegation of the PRG made a positive contribution to the success of the Conference. The luxuriant realities of our people's struggle, with its experiences paid for in blood, helped enlighten many questions which were raised during the discussions as well as in the declarations and resolutions of the Conference. The delegation of the PRG has pointed out the factors of victory for the national independence movements developed by the peoples of the Third World. Those factors are: determined struggle till the end against the common enemy, i.e. imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism headed by US imperialism; the close union of Non-Aligned Countries; union with the socialist countries which are faithful friends of the national independence movements, and union with all other forces struggling against imperialism, for peace, independence and social progress.

At the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries, the PRG delegation and I personally had wide contacts with delegations and with many heads of state. Many of them sought a meeting with us to congratulate us on our people's victory, to express their sympathy with our people's struggle, to invite the PRG delegation to come to their countries for a friendship visit, or to discuss the question of recognition of the PRG of the RSVN. Zambia, Malta, and Gabon recognized our PRG just in the course of the Conference; and Cameroun also recognized us recently. This is the results of these contacts.

Our delegation has closely co-operated, too, with the delegation of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, the delegation of the Cuban Republic, with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, and with many other delegations so as to bring the Conference to success. The diligent and continuous activities of the PRG delegation at the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries prove that we justly appreciated the importance of the Conference, that we brought a positive contribution to the success of the Conference, and that our friends unreservedly supported and assisted us.

Powerful Unity

THE fourth Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries was held after the national independence movements had won tremendous victories over the past 20 years, particularly after the Vietnamese and other Indochinese peoples had recorded victories of historic significance and international character in their struggle against US aggression. The Conference reflected the development of the movement of Non-Aligned Countries in such circumstances. It approached problems of vital importance for the existence and development of the people of Non-Aligned Countries. It correctly voiced the deep aspirations of over two billion people of the Third World. It expressed firm confidence in the capability, the strength, and the certainly victorious trend of the movements for national independence against imperialism, colonialism, and neo-colonialism.

The Conference clearly realized that imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, and racism with US imperialism at the head, were the enemy Number one of mankind and the most dangerous enemy of the world's peoples. Although our enemies have countered the vigorous struggle of various nations as well as of revolutionary and progressive forces all over the world, and met with very heavy defeats, they are still unwilling to give up their scheme of aggression and war aimed at imposing neo-colonialism on other countries. They themselves have launched the wars of aggression to repress the national liberation movements and staged reactionary coups d'état in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. They themselves have caused so much suffering and mourning to the peoples of various countries, poisoned the peaceful atmosphere of the world, and jeopardized the security of the five continents. It is also they who have sought by every means to plunder the rich resources of the peoples of the Third World, who have used various methods to practice economic blockades so as to pressurize, isolate, and weaken these countries which have recently secured national independence.

Fully aware of the enemy, the Conference promoted the significance of the force of union in our struggle for the preservation of independence, and freedom. It underlined the necessity to further strengthen the cohesion of all forces in the countries for the fight against the common enemy of the nation, to be vigilant at the enemy's extremely cruel and perfidious manoeuvers, to closely unite with the Third World countries and, at the same time, with the socialist countries and other revolutionary movements so as to defend national independence and to preserve world peace and security. The Conference also emphasized the necessity to increase our assistance to the national liberation movements, to strive for our economic development with a view to consolidating our political independence, to take practical measures to defend our national resources and to consider them efficient weapons in the struggle against the intervention and pressure in all fields by imperialism, colonialism, and neo-colonialism.

In its statement on economy, the Conference set out a general strategic line for economic development based on the following principles:

1 — Respect for one another's national independence and equality among countries;

2 — Full sovereignty of nations over their national resources;

3 — Respect for the ways of economic and social development of each country;

4 — Right of the Third World countries to nationalize for the benefit of their peoples the foreign monopolists' property which directly or indirectly hinders the development of their economy;

5 — International organizations' responsibility and duty to ensure the interests of developing countries in planning and exercising international relations in the economic, commercial, financial and monetary fields.

This is an important progress of the Non-Alignment movement in the struggling against neo-colonialism. The Conference worked out fairly concrete and overall tasks with a view to eventually eradicating from each country the devastating effects of neo-colonialism. The above-mentioned resolution has outlined the fundamental directives for the defence of the newly-gained independence of the Third-World countries. This is an important contribution to the national liberation movement and the struggle for the maintenance of world peace.

Great prestige of the PRG

REGARDING Viet Nam, the Conference warmly praised our people's patriotic war against the US aggressors and considered it as the vanguard banner of the national liberation movement. The Conference also praised the epoch-making victory of our people and considered it a common victory of the great family of Non-Aligned countries and of the whole progressive mankind.

The political statement of the Conference stressed that the "Conference welcomes the conclusion of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam and considers it as the common victory of the peoples of Viet Nam and Non-Aligned Countries as well as of all peace and freedom-loving forces in the world." The Conference also warmly welcomed the correct stand, serious attitude and persistent efforts of the PRG of the RSVN and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam to ensure strict and scrupulous implementation of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam. The Conference sternly condemned the Saigon administration and the US government for their extremely serious and systematic violation of all the provisions of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam, and firmly demanded that they strictly and scrupulously carry out the Paris Agreement and the June 13, 1973 Communiqué.

The Conference reaffirmed that the PRG of the RSVN was the sole genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people and called upon the Non-Aligned Countries to increase their political, moral and diplomatic support to the PRG, and to give it all material assistance for the reconstruction of Viet Nam. The US government and the Saigon administration had sought by every means to prevent the PRG from participating in the Conference as an official member of the movement of Non-Aligned Countries, but the PRG delegation was one of the delegations who were given the warmest welcome at the Conference. This bitter failure indicates that the Saigon administration is merely a group of puppets at the service of US imperialism, despised and hated by the peoples of the Non-Aligned countries. This fact shows, on the other hand, the great prestige of the National Front for Liberation and the PRG in the world, and reflects the strong support of the Non-Aligned Countries to the South Vietnamese people in their struggle against the violations of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam by the US and the Saigon administration.

The great victory of the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries constitutes a valuable support and a vigorous inspiration for our people's revolutionary struggle against the US imperialists and their henchmen, for the strict and scrupulous implementation of the Paris Agreement and the Joint Communiqué, so as to preserve stable and lasting peace to complete independence and democracy, to materialize national concord and to improve the people's living conditions, and to proceed to the peaceful reunification of our country.

The valuable support

AFTER the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned countries, our delegation made official visits to a number of friendly countries in Africa and Europe: the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, the Republic of Senegal, the Federation of Socialist Republics of Yugoslavia, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Uganda.

Wherever we went, our delegation was given the warmest welcome and reception. The Heads of state of these countries received our delegation with the most distinguished ceremonials of state welcome. The peoples of these friendly countries have expressed their warmest feelings to the PRG delegation. In many places, tens, even hundreds of thousands of people were standing on both sides of the roads waving their hands and flowers, shouting slogans and greetings to the delegation, despite rain, darkness, heat or late noon-time. We visited a number of schools, factories and rural areas. Everywhere, our delegation was warmly applauded by the workers, peasants, pupils and students who wished to express their warm sympathy for our people's just struggle. The people of all these friendly countries treated our delegation as their brothers coming from the front in victory.

These touching and extremely warm receptions became festivals to congratulate the great victory of our people and demonstrations to voice their solidarity with our people in their struggle against the US imperialists and their lackeys.

We had talks with the state leaders of these friendly countries, we informed them of the main features of the present situation in South Viet Nam, and expounded them our stand, policies and lines. Clearly reflecting the results of the talks, the joint communiqués (on the visits) have correctly embodied the spirit and content of the resolution on Viet Nam adopted by the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries; they are clear proofs of the new step of development of the friendship relations between the Republic of South Viet Nam and the aforesaid countries, and of the enhanced position and role of PRG in the international arena.

In almost all the visited countries, our delegation was so moved by our friends recalling our President Ho, praising him for his wonderful revolutionary spirit and noble virtue, chanting his great contribution to our struggle for national liberation and to the revolutionary movements in other countries the world over. We were so inspired by the admiration and respect that the state leaders as well as the peoples of these countries manifested for the extremely valiant fight and the glorious victory of our people, which our friends considered to be a brilliant example, a precious lesson and a great inspiration and encouragement for them.

The peoples and the governments of the visited countries sternly condemned the extremely serious and systematic violations of the essential provisions of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam by the US and the Saigon administration, their repeated violations of the ceasefire, their land-grabbing operations and their pacification police raids, thus filing countless crimes against our people. The violation of Article 8 of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam by the Saigon administration which is delaying the return of hundreds of thousands of political prisoners to continue persecuting and torturing them, has shocked the conscience of the whole mankind. Our friends everywhere sternly condemned the Saigon administration and demanded that they ensure all democratic liberties for the people, adopt a serious attitude, and give an adequate

response to the reasonable and sensible proposals of the PRG at the Consultative Conference between the two South Viet Nam parties. The peoples and governments of these countries unreservedly supported the Provisional Revolutionary Government's correct stand which consists in strictly respecting and scrupulously implementing the Paris Agreement and taking necessary measures to compel the other side to put an end to their acts of war and sabotage of the Agreement.

It is quite clear for the peoples and governments of the countries we visited that the PRG is entitled to be the sole genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people, that it has persistently fought for the fundamental national rights and the right to self-determination of the South Vietnamese people, and that it will be the entitled representative for the bright future of the South Vietnamese people.

The visit of the PRG delegation shows all the more clearly that the support and assistance of our friends throughout the world are extremely great. The Heads of state and the governments of those countries reaffirmed continued support to the just cause of our people and pledged to give; according to their possibilities; material assistance for our people and the PRG to promptly heal the wounds of war, to rehabilitate the economy, to stabilize living conditions, to build and consolidate the liberated areas. On behalf of our people, the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government, our delegation expressed to the socialist countries, the Non-Aligned countries and to peace- and justice-loving nations in the world; our profound gratitude for the valuable support and assistance they had given to our people's patriotic war against the US aggressors.

The visit of our PRG delegation is on the other hand an active support and a great inspiration and encouragement for the national liberation movement in the world. Through the talks and meetings we had with the leaders of various states and those of the national liberation movements, and through joint communiqués, our delegation expressed the resolute support of our people, the National Front for Liberation and the PRG to the revolutionary cause of the brotherly peoples of Cambodia and Laos, and to the struggle of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America for national independence and for an abundant and happy life.

On our way back to the liberated area as well as before going to the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries in Algiers, our delegation had stop-overs in Ha noi.

President Ton Duc Thang and the leaders of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the National Assembly, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, the Viet Nam People's Army, the mass organizations, as well as the people of all walks of life, extended to our delegation a warm reception permeated with the kith-and-kin sentiments between Northerners and Southerners. During our short stay in the North, we visited a number of factories, schools, offices and army units. Everywhere, the workers, soldiers and compatriots, all have expressed their brotherly sentiments not only through their warm reception but also through their daily activities in the factories, on the fields and on the training grounds. They were all working with great enthusiasm to build up a strong North Viet Nam and at the same time, to help our South Vietnamese people to rapidly heal the wounds of war, to stabilize living conditions to build and consolidate the liberated areas.

The leaders as well as our fellow-countrymen of the fraternal North highly appreciated the success of the Algiers Summit Conference, that of the PRG delegation's official friendship visit to a number of African and European countries, considering it a great achievement of the Provisional Revolutionary Government and the South Vietnamese people in the diplomotic field. The talks we had with President Ton Duc Thang and other leaders of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam proceeded in an atmosphere permeated with the kith-and-kin sentiments between the Northerners and the Southerners. The two sides had total identity of views on all problems of mutual interest.

When we were still working abroad as well as when we are now back to our beloved country, what we, all the members of the PRG delegation, thought about and what we have deeply engraved in our mind; was that the success of the recent diplomatic activities of the Provisional Revolutionary Government was the success of our South Vietnamese compatriots and soldiers, the common success of our compatriots and fighters throughout the country, who have overcome so many trials and hardships for decades in the heroic fight against an extremely ruthless enemy and who have won a glorious victory. The admiration, the honour and heart-touching encouragement, which the state leaders and the peoples of friendly countries extended to our delegation, the warm reception, permeated with the kith-and-kin sentiments which the North Vietnamese leaders, people and soldiers gave us, are actually extended and given to the compatriots and soldiers of the heroic South, to the compatriots and fighters of the whole heroic country, to the South Vietnamese Revolution, to the Viet Nam glorious Revolution, all this belongs to the leader of our nation, our great President Ho Chi Minh.

Persistent struggle for new victories

LESS than two months have passed by since the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries. During this short period of time, a number of extremely important events relating to the development of the Non-Aligned Countries movement and to the upsurge of the world revolution have taken place.

The fascist military coup d'état in Chile against President Allende's progressive system, the war broken out again in the Middle-East, because of the Israeli policy of war and aggression and because of the US intervention, the brazen provocative attacks of the US against Cuban ships, the increasingly serious violations of the provisions of the Paris Agreement by the US and the Saigon administration... have clearly shown that US imperialism, the most dangerous enemy of mankind, is stubbornly using most brutal and perfidious methods to oppose the revolutionary movements of the world peoples.

However, the present balance of forces in the world is continuing to change in favour of the revolutionary and progressive forces.

Enlightened by the spirit of the Summit Conference's resolutions, the peoples of the Third World countries have begun working out the orientations of the struggle for and in defense of their respective independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and for the defense of the right to live in freedom, equality and happiness. The socialist countries are becoming stronger with every passing day and the movement for peace and democracy is unceasingly developing.

The revolution pursued by the Chilian people meets with a temporary setback, but the ruling militarist fascists are more isolated than ever not only at home but also abroad. The Egyptian and the Syrian peoples are firmly taking up arms to fight bravely against the aggression of Israel and the US standing behind it. The peoples and armies of Egypt and Syria have dealt the aggressors strong return blows and given them due punishments. The valiant struggle of the Egyptian and the Syrian peoples has won the strong approval and support of other Arab countries, the Non-Aligned Countries, the socialist countries and peace- and justice-loving people the world over. Endowed with long-standing traditions of dauntless struggle, and strong of the solidarity, support, and help of other Arab countries, the Non-Aligned Countries, the socialist countries and the world progressive people, the peoples of Egypt, Syria, and other Arab countries will surely win final victory in their struggle against the Israeli aggressors and the US imperialists, for national independence, and for the liberation of the occupied lands, thereby contributing to the defence of peace in the Middle-East and the world.

THE situation of South Viet Nam also becomes more and more tense, in spite of the fact that the Paris Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam has been signed and has come into effect for over nine months now. Facts over the past nine months have clearly shown that the Saigon administration and the US have systematically and very seriously violated essential provisions of the Paris Agreement, especially the ceasefire provisions. They launched continuous land-grabbing operations, and air raids against the areas controlled by the Provisional Revolutionary Government, from Quang Tri, Thua Thien to Nam Bo. They are, on the other hand, frenziedly pursuing the "pacification" programme, arresting, terrorizing, massacring our people in the urban and rural areas still controlled by the Saigon administration. They have created hundreds of taxes and bled our compatriots white in order to feed their war machinery, making the life of our compatriots all the more miserable. They are still detaining, torturing and murdering hundreds of thousands of our compatriots in prisons; they also throttle all democratic liberties of the people. They obstinately reject all the logic and reasonable proposals put forth by the Provisional Revolutionary Government at the South Vietnamese Two-Party Consultative Conference in Paris and undermine the normal activities of the Two-Party Joint Military Commission and the International Commission.

A signatory to the Paris Agreement, the foster-father and the commander of the Saigon administration, the US is entirely responsible for the present tension in South Viet Nam. It is the American advisers, disguised as civilian experts, who are directing the programme of sweeps and land-grabbing operations and who are commanding the realization of the "pacification" programme. It is the US who has illegally introduced more weapons and war material into South Viet Nam.

Since the conclusion of the Paris Agreement, the US scheme has always been to maintain and consolidate the Thieu administration as an instrument for the implementation of the "Nixon Doctrine," to help Thieu strengthen and consolidate the Saigon army and the police machinery with a view to maintaining the state of war and US neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam. Because of the US and the Saigon administration's schemes and acts of sabotage of the Paris Agreement, there has not been real peace in South Viet Nam.

In view of the above-mentioned situation, it is the heavy task of the people and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, to strengthen their union and to resolutely struggle to defend the Agreement and to get it respected and scrupulously implemented by the US and the Saigon administration. We reaffirm that it is our consistent position to resolutely and perseveringly join the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in correctly and scrupulously implementing of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam and to demand that the US and the Saigon administration do the same. If they persist in frantically launching sweeps and land-grabbing operations, if they indulge in new military adventures, we shall reserve for ourselves the right to use any necessary measures to protect the people and to defend our sovereignty, territory, air-space and territorial waters. The Command of the People's Liberation Armed Forces has issued an order to all cadres and combatants of the regular and regional armed forces, to all guerillas and liberation security forces throughout South Viet Nam to heighten vigilance, resolutely and duly counter all acts of war of the Saigon administration, to defend the liberated zones, to protect the lives and property of the people and to preserve the Paris Agreement. This order reflects the absolutely necessary and legitimate attitude and measures by our people and government. We warmly praise the People's Liberation Armed Forces in Tay Nguyen and Tay Ninh for their recent striking victory, in duly striking back the "sweepers" and land-grabbers, winning back the liberated zones encroached upon by the Saigon administration.

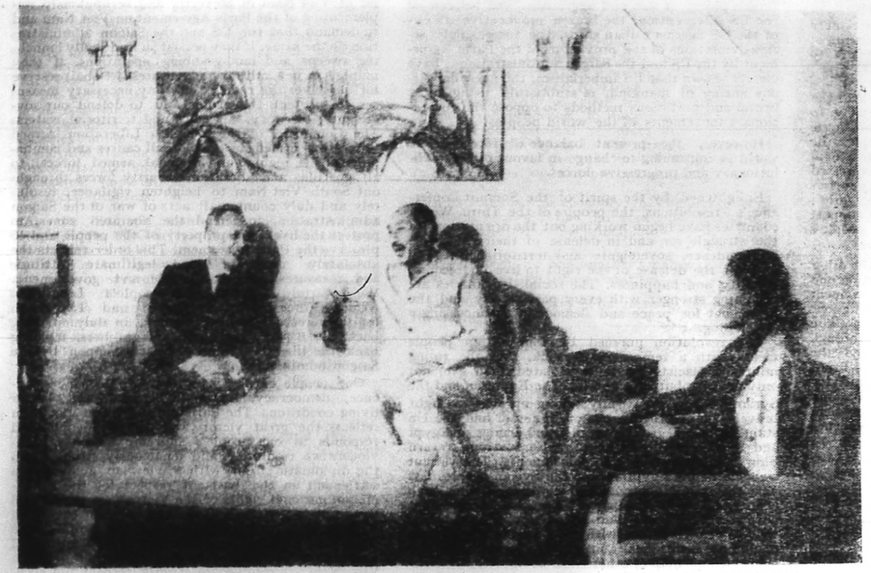
Our people earnestly aspire for peace, independence, democracy, national concord and better living conditions. The Paris Agreement on Viet Nam reflects the great victory won by our people and responds to our people's supreme interests. Previously we resolutely and tenaciously struggled on the diplomatic front with a view to achieving a settlement on the basis of respect for the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people and the right to genuine self-determination of the South Vietnamese people. At present, our people, the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam are resolved to strictly respect and scrupulously implement all provisions of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam. At the same time we will resolutely take all necessary measures to safeguard the Agreement, protect the lives and property of the people, and to defend the liberated zones. Together with all countries of the Non-Aligned movement, we are resolved to enhance vigilance, increase unity and strive for turning the resolutions of the Algiers Summit Conference into reality so as to join other peoples of the Third World, in contributing to the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism headed by US imperialism. We are determined to unceasingly increase our friendship and militant solidarity with the Soviet Union, China and other socialist countries, with peace- and justice-loving people all over the world, including the American progressive people, for the sake of the common cause of mankind: national independence, democracy, peace and social progress.

The balance of forces in South Viet Nam as well as in the whole of our country is at present full in our favour. Our strength and position are steady and stronger than ever. The enemy has many cruel and perfidious designs and manœuvers in store. Our struggle in this new stage is therefore hard, complicated and protracted. These circumstances require that all our compatriots, cadres and combatants to strengthen our unity, to heighten our vigilance, to struggle with tenacity, to bring the great victories we have gained into full play, and to fulfill all our tasks in the new stage.

The correct stand of our people and government has won the unreserved approval and support of our compatriots in the whole country, the peoples and governments of the fraternal socialist countries, the movement of the Non-Aligned countries and peace- and justice-loving people all over the world.

Holding aloft the banner of struggle for peace, independence, democracy, better living conditions, and national concord, standing shoulder to shoulder with our brothers in the North, bringing into full play the militant solidarity, staunchness and indomitable will of our entire people and army, the South Vietnamese people are certain to win the final victory in achieving a peaceful, independent, democratic, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam and in proceeding to the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.

EGYPT, the land of wonders



Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho holding talks with President Sadat. Also present, RSVN Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh

Workers of an Egyptian arms-producing factory welcoming Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho and his suite

ON his flight back to South Viet Nam, Chairman **Nguyen Huu Tho** received from the President of the Democratic and People's Republic of Algeria a short message which reminds me of flames belching forth, black smoke towering over buildings demolished by bombs, roads pockmarked with deep bomb-craters, blocks of concrete hurled away by bomb explosions, villas flattened, window panels dangling on high, palm-trees charred, truncated red jasmines uprooted and thrown across roads strewn with hardware...

The gaping wounds make us think of the scarred ones. Like when our land was ploughed up by American bombs and shells, we feel the smarting of the injuries the enemy caused to your Fatherland. The Israeli aggressors have just rekindled the war in the Suez area and are contemplating to plant the double-triangle flag far beyond their frontiers and to bring the war to this side of the Suez canal.

I remember the day the PRG delegation arrived in Cairo all the Egyptian papers headlined Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho's declaration at the airfield: "On the banks of the Nile or the Mekong river, we face one and the same enemy!" The bombs and shells which are destroying your cities and those which devastated our Fatherland, bear the same trade-mark "made in USA." The Non-Aligned Countries' Summit has branded the US imperialists and Israeli aggressors as the arch enemies of the Third-World, and of all progressive mankind.

The PRG delegation visited the Suez canal front 12 days before the October flare-up. The long road leading us to the battle-field ran across the immense desert. Some tufts of sparse grass were seen here and there on the sand; their blossoms added yellow or violet dots to the brown of the sand and the green of the grass. In Arab army uniforms just made to measure for us the previous day, we visited the inner perimeter and the outer-perimeter bristling with A.A. gun nests, ordnance pieces and full of tanks and amphibious cars. Each time we drove past their garrison, the Egyptian soldiers on duty raised their hands in an affectionate salute as if to say:

"Let's look forward together to a crop of victories!"

Here everything was ready to reap that harvest and to adorn the desert with deep red roses. In the scorching sun of Africa, raw recruits were drilling in river crossing in dingies; up-to-date amphibious cars were standing in a long row, army engineers were carrying heavy and cumbersome bridge parts; tanks of various kinds in training were ploughing up the sandy yard. Machine-gun fire crackled. Perhaps, the bullets and firearms manufactured by the arms factory we had just visited were en route to the front! Probably those very soldiers and technicians who had just reported the results of their gun testing to Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho were standing at attention before their commander-in-chief, telling of their signal exploits on the Sinai peninsula.

In a spacious sitting-room provided with all conveniences of the two thirds underground CP of the Suez sector lying between two Egyptian defence lines erected in the desert, the Lieutenant-General commanding the sector received us most cordially. Stalwart and jovial he had very soldierly manners but not devoid of poetic sentiments. He said:

"There is no greater joy and honour for us than to receive the heroic soldiers returning from the forefront of the battle against US imperialism! On behalf of our men in the sector, I warmly welcome you! Dear friends! What we wish most is to benefit from the valuable experience you have gained in your epic struggle."

When we presented the military sector command with some gifts, including a South Viet Nam PLAF uniform, the Lieutenant-General hugged the head of our delegation and said: "Thank you very much, dear friend! I shall wear this uniform of victory!"

Our convoy drove past Tawfik to the front set up by the Egyptian army along the Suez canal, to the Gulf of Suez in the Red Sea. Here the water was troubled, carcasses of ships sunk by Israeli bombs lay here and there in the Gulf. The seacoast was gaping with bomb craters as pools. Many bombs had hit the roadway. The town had been heavily damaged by air raids. Not a living soul; not a bird chirping on the trees, not a gull at sea. Only sandy dust covered the colourful houses. The burning sun darted its rays into the asphalted road and railway tracks. The air was oppressive.

At an outpost, an Egyptian soldier held out his hand, anticipating the wish of all of us to shake hands with him who was always ready to fire at the enemy!

Another rank-and-file, after receiving an NFL badge embraced one of us, saying merrily: "I am a soldier of the Egyptian army and also a fighter of the South Viet Nam NFL. I shall win. I am ready for marching orders."

"Wish you good luck, dear friend!"

Now as I am jotting down these words, the radio announces your advance in Sinai. In my mind's eyes, I see you darting forward under the banner bearing a spread eagle flying in the wind of the Gulf of Suez. I see the Lieutenant-General wearing a PLAF soft hat putting his head out of the turret of his tank to give orders to his men. Do you hear your friends' noisy congratulations on your splendid victory, general?

THERE are handshakes which leave a deep impression. It was to p.m. The streets in downtown Cairo were still bustling. An Egyptian couple and two children of theirs, a girl and a boy, were waiting for us in front of the RSVN Embassy. When they saw us, the mother urged her dear ones on: the young girl wavered while the boy flinched... Then the father approached us and said: "We are citizens of Egypt, dear friends! We know that you are the victorious freedom fighters from South Viet Nam. We have been waiting for you to ask you to allow our children to shake hands with you, their uncles from South Viet Nam, the victors!"

The two children were very happy to put their tiny hands in the fighters' horny hands. "Thank you, little children of Egypt! Thank you, the people of the land of the Pyramids, who wish day and night to see your sons return from the front with a laurel on their heads! Thank you for your appreciation of our efforts!"

The Nile and the Mekong carry the same waters. Egypt and Viet Nam are bound together by the same struggle for national independence, for human dignity! Every day, flocking from various parts of Cairo, people of all ages and both sexes thronged in front of the Koubbeh Palace to greet the PRG delegation. From the ancient citadel to the modern town quarters, wherever our delegation passed, soldiers, old people, children, school youths waved their hands to us. How can I forget the image of toothless old women in their baggy sand-coloured clothes rushing forth, kicking up a lot of dust, to welcome us and merrily chanting slogans! How touching were the hand wavings of the Egyptians! How close is the solidarity between Egypt and Viet Nam!

WHEN you fly to Cairo, you can see beneath your plane an immense stretch of sandy land, a limpid river flowing from south to north, its banks green with banana trees, date-trees and mango-trees, a straight canal with its banks lined up with huge buildings; the workshops, which released clouds of smoke mounting in the sky in a long spiral. Don't be disappointed! This picture so sober in lines and shades contains in fact something very grand and phantasmagorical, colourful and inspiring.

Egypt is the land of wonders. She was mentioned in the history of mankind 7,000 years ago and has ever since performed miracles which are admired by all generations and even amaze the greatest geniuses of all eras. Five thousands years ago, she built the Pyramids, one of the world's wonders which has been challenging the time.

Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho and Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh visited the inside of one of the Pyramids through a small tunnel: the centre of the monument is a sepulchral chamber 8 metres long, 4 metres wide and 5 metres high in which lies the Pharaon's tomb. The sarcophagus in basalt, 2.50 metres long, 0.13 metre thick and 1.30 metres high, contains the mummy. The Pyramid is made of two million square blocks of stone, the smallest one weighing 7 tons and the biggest one 30 tons, so juxtaposed to make each face an equilateral triangle. To carry these two million elaborately hewn blocks from far away quarries down the Nile, to lift them up by the strength of over 100,000 slaves, to provide food and shelter for them, to build the gigantic monument, is in itself a wonder! But many mysteries remain to be discovered by science. These sarcophaguses made about 30 centuries before Christ contain ornate jewels, household articles and baskets of a craftmanship that even modern arts cannot match. We contemplated with rapt attention the black granite statues of pharaon, of the sphinxes over 5,000 years old, marvels of elegance, of design and originality. The genius and creative labour of man as great and inexhaustible as space and time, have made him myster of nature, and preserved for mankind invaluable treasures. At the back of the pharaon's headwear is usually a spread eagle. The sphinx (a human head on a lion's body) and the eagle symbolize the might of the kings of the animals and birds. This legitimate aspiration of the Egyptians urged them to embark early onto the historic path charted for mankind and to work wonders which have left their vestiges on the surface and in the bosom of the earth.

THESE treasured tokens of the might of man in the land of Egypt have been buffeted by nature, but they have so far withstood all trials and marked the aquiline-nosed Egyptian, with deep-socketed eyes and dark bronze complexion, living on that northeastern part of Africa. That force is now working the factories and manning the ancient bastions found along the road taken by our delegation.

Now the Israeli are invading that land with Thunderchiefs, Phantoms, Mirages and Hawk rockets. They have occupied the Sinai peninsula, the banks of the Suez canal, sowing ruins and desolation. Part of the Egyptian territory is tramped on by the caterpillars of tanks and hobnailed shoes of the aggressors. Agony and anger can be read on the face of every fellah and even on those of the sphinxes. The invaders are blind enough not to see this hatred mounting as high as the Pyramids and the stubborn resistance put up on this bank of the Suez canal.

Centuries have passed by, yet Egypt is standing firm, defying time like the Pyramids. Sandstorms have dried up the streams and the hot winds blowing from the desert have buried whole cities, time has injured the stones of the Pyramids, yet these monuments always remain as one of the marvels of the world.

Oh you, offsprings of the builders of the Pyramids! You are embellishing the Egyptian land with black wreckages of enemy tanks and warplanes. You have engraved on the desert sand a list of your brilliant exploits.

Hurrah, combatants of the land of the Pyramids, defenders of the independence and freedom of your land of wonders!

Written on the day the Egyptian army had just routed an Israeli armoured regiment in the Sinai.

HUYNH VAN LY

Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho, Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh and the PRG delegation by the Sphinx near the famous Pyramid

BRITISH PEOPLE SUPPORT VIET NAM

The British Medical Aid Viet Nam Committee, on November 2, 3 and 4 organized a sale-exhibition of paintings by nearly 200 British and other West European artists to buy medicaments for Viet Nam.

Inaugurating the exhibition, Chairman of the Committee Charles Lefton called on the progressive British people to protest still more energetically against the violation of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam by the US and the Saigon administration, and actively collect money for Viet Nam.

The Committee has collected more than 3,000 pounds to buy medicaments and medical equipment for the Vietnamese people.

On November 5, the Executive Committee of the British Labour Party presented the Vietnamese people a sum of 5,000 pound to help in the rebuilding of the Thai Phien secondary school in Hai Phong city destroyed by US bombs.

intruders punished

IN October, particularly in its second half, the PLAF, acting strictly on orders of their Command, meted out due punishment to Saigon forces obdurately persisting in criminal land-grabbing operations against the liberated zone of South Viet Nam.

In Dong Da, Trang Bang district, Tay Ninh province, on Oct. 15, they put out of action more than 100 intruders. The position there had been illegally occupied by Saigon since August. The same day in Gia Dinh province, the PLAF intercepted a Saigon army unit which was massing in Dong San for a raid on the liberated part of Cu Chi district. The patriots inflicted over 100 casualties and captured more than 80 assorted guns.

Also on Oct. 15, and on Oct. 16, they removed 4 Saigon posts in various PRG-controlled areas in Kien Phong province, wiping out dozens of Saigon troops. In a 15-day period between late in September and the first part of October the liberation forces killed or wounded some 100 Saigon raiders and destroyed an armoured troop carriers and 2 war vessels in My An district.

On the High Plateaux from Oct. 10 to 20, the defenders of the liberated zone took a toll of over 600 land-grabbers, wrecked 20 military vehicles and 8 howitzers, downed 6 war planes, and seized about 100 guns of various kinds.

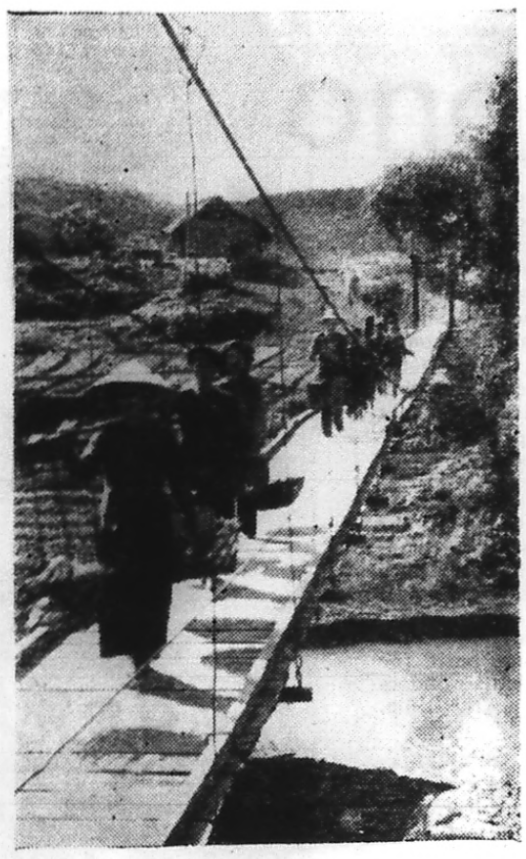
In the first fortnight of October in My Tho province in the Mekong River Delta, the regional liberation forces put out of combat more than 720 Saigon raiders among them 18 company officers. They also did short work of 5 military vehicles, sank 2 war vessels, reoccupied 7 positions, and bagged more than 50 guns.

In the same period in Western Nam Bo (South Viet Nam proper — *Ed.*) the PLAF inflicted more than 750 casualties on the Saigon army. In addition, they blasted out of commission 20 armoured personnel carriers and destroyed or damaged 6 war vessels. Fighting back at Saigon intruders in the same period the liberation forces in Kien Tuong province wiped out 150 men, shot down 2 helicopters, and destroyed 3 war vessels. In Can Tho province in the period under review, regional forces and guerillas knocked out more than 140 Saigon rice-looters, In Quang Nam, Phu Yen, Chau Ha and Binh Dinh provinces in the ten days ending Oct. 10, the PLAF wiped out over 800 land-grabbers by decimating 2 Ranger battalions. They also derailed 3 military trains and levelled 7 Saigon enclaves in the liberated zone.

The heaviest blow came from the regional forces in Hoai Nhon district, Binh Dinh province, who put out of action as many as 1,770 Saigon intruders in the period between August 7 and October 10, by writing off 9 whole platoons and depleting 2 battalions and dozens of companies. Other losses caused to the Saigon army included 57 military vehicles including 48 tanks and armoured cars.

The antiwar movement among Saigon soldiery, as a result of such smarting blows, is mounting steadily.

The DRVN in brief



Hundreds of such bridges are being built in North Viet Nam's mountain regions

Winter crop

This year, the winter rice crop has not only become the main crop but can offset the crop shortage caused by the last flood and typhoon. The highest total output of food crop, manuring-plants and animal's food has been obtained, increasing in some localities three or four times over last year.

Repairs and new constructions

After overcoming the aftermaths of the last typhoon, many factories and workshops are now under construction. Hundreds of thousands of square metres of floor space have been repaired or built. The construction of the main installations in Vang Danh coalmine is completed.

Industrial development

With the operation of the blast furnaces of the Van Dien plant, the production of phosphate fertilizers has doubled. The first melting of "cast-iron" after the war has been obtained by the Thai Nguyen Iron and Steel Complex.

North Viet Nam is in a position to build 135-HP fishing boats; it can produce welding powder which advantageously replaces welding rods and TNK dyestuff so far imported from abroad.

Serving agriculture

Over the last 9 months, North Viet Nam's industry (central and local) has turned out hundreds of thousands of farm implements tens of thousands of tons of pulverized apatite and tens of thousands of coal serving as fertilizers.

Science in the service of aquatic production

52 scientific studies of the Hydraulic College have been applied with a high economical value to such branches as aquatic production and sea fishing.

Diplomatic relation

Diplomatic relations have been established between the DRVN and the United Kingdom of Great Britain, Malta, Japan and Argentina.

The DRVN Government has decided to suspend the activities of its embassy in Chile.

Famine hits Saigon zone

THE "rice fever" is exerting an ever more serious impact on the labouring people's life. Those who still have money run about in search of some rice just to keep their body and soul together, those without a job and a penny have to beg for a living or resign themselves to starve.

Famine is rampant in resettlement centres: in the Phuoc Lam centre, Quang Nam province, more than 30 people, mostly old-agers and children, have died of hunger since early September. Inmates of concentration camps in Khanh Hoa, Long Khanh, have been reduced to begging. Famine is threatening the *Rhe* nationality in Quang Ngai province. Earth is eaten there by quite a number of people, either in roasted balls or in powder. As a result of rice shortage, many have sold their children or just abandoned them in market places or on roadsides, and scenes of brigands killing people and robbing rice can already be seen.

In Saigon and other cities the situation is no less critical. Such news as the following can be read in Saigon newspapers: "On Oct. 10, Mr Giang Tan Canh died of famine right on the roadway of lane 404, Phan Dinh Phung Avenue" *(Dien Tin,* Oct. 13*)*. "A Saigon civil servant with 7 children wanted to give away the two youngest ones to save them from starvation, but nobody took them" (*Dien Tin,* Oct. 11). "In a few weeks time, three old-time journalists including Hoang Thai Son, died from misery and illness... What is heart-rending is that they were by no means lazy or talentless, but many journals they might contribute to had to close down."

Saigon soldiers have not been spared by the scourge of famine either. Those who are compelled to "defend" the Thieu regime with their blood now finally fall victims to this very regime. On Oct. 11, police sergeant Huynh Van Khoan shot himself dead and in a letter left behind he gave the wretched picture of his life.

At Qui Nhon township, "security forces" agent Nam, being unable to feed his five children, sold his uniform, the last thing he possessed. He bought enough rice for the last dinner. Seven people, including his wife, children and himself, died before the meal was over, as rice had been mixed with poison.

In Can Tho City, private Muoi, of the Logistics Service Unit 4, committed suicide together with his wife and five children by taking poisoned soup (see SVN i.S N°...)

The stories related above had been reported in the press. As a matter of fact, suicide for fear of famine has been much more common. Eleven cases were listed in Saigon on one day, Oct. 14.

The battle cry of the people in the Saigon-controlled zone is now understandably peace and food.

Strengthen the fraternal friendship and co-operation between Viet Nam and Czechoslovakia

AT the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, a delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam led by Pham Van Dong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and Premier of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, paid an official visit to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic from October 23 to 28, 1973.

During its stay in Czechoslovakia, the Viet Nam Workers' Party and Government delegation was received by and had a cordial conversation with Gustav Husak, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. General Ludvik Svoboda, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, also received the delegation.

The Viet Nam Workers' Party and Government delegation visited Bratislava where it had a friendly meeting with Josef Lenart, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Slovak Communist Party; Peter Clotka, Premier of the Slovak Socialist Government, and Ondrej Klokoc, President of the Slovak National Council. The delegation also visited the Slovnaft State-run factory, attended a meeting in honour of the Viet Nam - Czechoslovakia friendship and visited the State-run factory named after V. I. Lenin in Plezen and the Viet Nam - Czechoslovak friendship agricultural Cooperative in Kacina.

Wherever it went, it was accorded a warm and cordial welcome by the people, which was a briliant expression of the fraternal friendship and militant solidarity between the Vietnamese and Czechoslovak peoples, for this the Vietnamese delegation expressed its sincere thanks.

The Party and Government delegation of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam led by Pham Van Dong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and Premier of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, held talks with the Party and Government delegation of Czechoslovakia led by L. Strougal, Presidium member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and Premier of Federal Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The talks proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. The two sides examined the situation and the tasks of the Vietnamese people in the new stage of struggle, discussed experiences of both countries in socialist construction, and the further consolidation and strengthening of the relations of friendship and fraternal co-operation between the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, and other questions of mutual concern.

The Czechoslovak side informed its counterpart of the achievements recorded by the Czechoslovak people in the carrying out of the resolution of the 15th plenum of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the implementation of the 5th five-year plan aimed at developing the national economy of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The Vietnamese side expressed its admiration for the big successes which the Czechoslovak working class and labouring people had recorded under the leadership of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia headed by Comrade Gustav Husak in the cause of defending and building socialism, developing the national economy, raising the people's living standard as well as strengthening the international position of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. It expressed its sincere joy ever the victories of the Czechoslovak people in resolving the aftermaths of the 1968-1969 crisis caused by the anti-socialist forces, quickly stabilizing the situation in all respects of social life, and creating the conditions for stepping up the socialist development in Czechoslovakia. These achievements of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic positively contributed to the strengthening of the socialist camp, and to the cause of defending peace and security in Europe and the rest of the world.

The Vietnamese delegation informed the Czechoslovak side of the situation and the tasks of the Vietnamese people following the conclusion of the Viet Nam war, and of other questions concerning the implementation of the Paris Agreement as well as the rehabilitation and development of the national economy, and the socialist construction in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

The Czechoslovak side expressed its joy over the big victories gained by the Vietnamese people under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party in the struggle against the US aggression for national independence and freedom, and in the building of socialism in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. It paid tribute to the undaunted spirit displayed by the heroic Vietnamese people in their staunch struggle for their lofty ideals. The Paris Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring peace in Viet Nam and the June 13, 1973 Joint Communiqué are evidences of a marvellous victory of historic significance of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam in the military, political and diplomatic fields, and of the efficacity of the assistance given by the socialist countries in the internationalist spirit and the solidarity of the progressive and democratic forces throughout the world. The victory of the Viet Nam once more proves that a nation which is determined to fight for their freedom and independence, which is guided by a correct line and enjoys firm support from the socialist countries and the revolutionary and progressive forces in the world, is invincible.

The Vietnamese side reaffirmed the resolute stand of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam to strictly respect and scrupulously implement the Paris Agreement and the Joint Communiqué and demand that the US and the Saigon administration do the same.

The Czechoslovak side fully supported this stand of the Government of the Demoratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and took side with the proposals made on June 28, 1973 by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam which conform with the Paris Agreement and are aimed at settling the internal affairs of South Viet Nam by peaceful and democratic means in the spirit of national reconciliation and concord and on the basis of the recognition of the reality that there exist in South Viet Nam two administrations, two armies, two zones of control and three political forces.

The Czechoslovak side declared that as hitherto the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, loyal to the principles of proletarian internationalism, will in the future continue giving its support and assistance according to its capability to the Vietnamese people in their just struggle for the strict implementation of the Paris Agreement, the preservation and the consolidation of lasting peace, the successful building of socialism, the completion of the independence and democracy in the South in the advance to the peaceful reunification of their Fatherland.

The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic will continue developing and consolidating its all-round relations of friendship with the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the sole authentic representative of the South Vietnamese people.

The two sides expressed their determination to continue strengthening the fraternal friendship and co-operation between Viet Nam and Czechoslovakia in the interests of the two peoples, in the common interests of socialism and of the anti-imperialist struggle.

During the talks, the two Party and Government delegations agreed upon the assistance given by the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam for the rehabilitation of the national economy and socialist construction in the years ahead. To this end, agreements on economic and military assistance accorded to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and on goods exchanges and payments between the two countries in 1974 were signed.

Proceeding from their international line, and considering the tasks of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam concerning the solving of war sequels and the continued development of its national economy, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic decided to consider the loans accorded to Viet Nam during the past years as a gift of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

The two sides expressed their profound satisfaction about the process and result of the official friendship visit of the Party and Government delegation of Democratic Republic of Viet Nam to Czechoslovakia. The visit has contributed to the continued strengthening of the unshakable friendship and co-operation between the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, and between the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

the Third World in effervescence

THAILAND

The patriotic forces ambushed an enemy patrol in Loi on October 20, killing nine men, including the deputy district officer of Pakson. On the same day, 3 police and militiamen were killed when their jeep ran into a mine planted by guerillas in Nakae.

MOZAMBIQUE

In the first half of July, the freedom fighters assaulted enemy camps at Chithiri, Chale, Caunda Chazia etc. in Tete, wiping out over 50 troops and putting on fire a number of barracks.

Within 3 days (August 21, 25 and 28) the patriots killed a total of more than 150 Portuguese colonial trops and destroyed 13 military vehicles in attacks in the areas of Matunga, Mutarara, Nharuino etc. and on railway sections.

ANGOLA

On the morning of October 8, the armed forces of People's Liberation Movement of Angola destroyed two Portuguese colonial troops' observation posts in Cabinda. Furthermore, they assailed a motorized infantry company when it was crossing a bridge on the Singuissa river. Portuguese troop reinforcements were also intercepted. These operations resulted in 60 enemy killed and 5 vehicles wrecked.

VENEZUELA

The Ministry of Mines and Hydrocarburants decided on October 18 to increase the price of a barrel of oil by 46 cents. This is part of Venezuela's policy of protecting national interests, and opposing US exploitation. Most of the oil produced in Venezuela is exported to the United States.

GUATEMALA

About 10,000 people in Guatemala city, capital of Guatemala, held a mammoth meeting for the 29th anniversary of the Guatemalan people's armed uprising against the dictatorial rule of Jorge Ubico in 1944. The rally was followed by a street demonstration.

COLOMBIA

Supported by the people, the guerillas have continued operating in Anori and Tolima. In an ambush on October 15, they knocked out 8 adverse troops while the latter were seaching for them in Rioblanco area, Tolima province.

UGANDA

On October 29, the Ugandan Government ordered 6 American secret servicemen at the American Embassy in Kampala to leave within 48 hours. Earlier, Ugandan President Idi Amin had accused the United States, Israel and Great Britain of trying to smuggle foreign troops into Uganda for armed subversion against his Government.

PERU

In Lima on October 17, President Juan Velasco Alvarado announced the coming nationalisation of the mining enterprise of "Cerro de Pasco" run by the United States.

The President condemned and warned reactionaries at home and abroad of their manoeuvres against the positive measures taken by the Peruvian Revolutionary Military Government.

MEXICO

On September 25, Mexico suspended its sale of coffee to the United States so as to secure better international price and combat "New York speculators". The move enjoys the support of coffee-producing countries such as Brazil, Colombia, Salvador and Costa Rica. 85 per cent of the Mexico's yield was shipped to the United States annually.

Hail the 56th anniversary of the Great October Revolution

THE Soviet land is stirringly commemorating the 56th anniversary of the October Revolution. Its people can pride themselves on this glorious event. In the history of mankind, no occurrence can be compared with the October Revolution as to the depth and magnitude of significance. It cut a large breach into the imperialist system which used to dominate the whole world; one-sixth of the world's area was freed, and hundreds of millions of people were roused to fight for freedom. 56 years have elapsed since: it was not a long period of time but the effects of the October Revolution have been far-reaching indeed. The powerful tides of revolution and of national liberation have swept away numerous bastions of colonialism and imperialism one after another. Like a beacon, it has shown the oppressed peoples and nations living in darkness the right path towards emancipation, and provided them with invaluable experience.

New glowing pages have been added by the Soviet people to their history, at each anniversary of this memorable event. An effervescent emulation movement in labour has been on in all factories, construction sites, farms. Tremendous changes have been recorded in the tempo of construction, in technique, in everyday life. In the first nine months of 1973, Soviet industrial production exceeded the planned norm by 1,5 percent.

The Soviet Union can boast at present a powerful enonomy with more than 40,000 factories, 34,000 kolkhozes and 15,000 sovkhozes. These are but conservative estimates, since they continue to grow by some more dozen units every month, every 24 hours see the completion of two new big-sized factories.

There can be no exhaustive list of the achievements of this country which is the embodiment of the October Revolution's spirit, But there is no doubt that whenever imperialism and colonialism hatches a new aggressive scheme, it has to reckon with its might.

History has entrusted it with a heavy, but glorious, task: that of helping the national liberation movement. The atrocious US war against Viet Nam reminded everyone of the calamities wrought by the German fascists. In a letter sent to the "Support-Viet Nam Committee" of the Soviet Union, a Moscow child wrote: "Why don't you tell the Yanks not to kill Vietnamese children with bombs?" What is moving here is the fact that this voice of innocence and love was raised in the very land of Lenin—the land of human dignity, of justice, of justice, of reason. In September 1971, the Moscow pioneers and Komsomol youths gathered in a big hall on Lenin Hill to condemn US imperialism and call on everyone to join the campaign of solidarity with heroic Viet Nam. In summer, Soviet children scattered into forests and fields to collect medicinal plants for Vietnamese hospitals.

For years, the support Viet Nam movement has grown into a mass movement progressing vigorously and ceaselessly, embracing all social segments, from children to youths, women, workers, war veterans, etc. In the Soviet citizens have been cultivated the love of the Soviet land and respect for all nations struggling for freedom. They therefore completely identify themselves with the cause of the Vietnamese people. This appeal was issued by the 24th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to all Party members and Soviet citizens: "Firmly uphold the liberation movement in South Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia." "To help Viet Nam is our internationalist duty" said L.I. Brezhnev, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Party.

The entire Soviet nation greeted the Paris Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam as a signal victory and important turning-point in the Vietnamese people's fight against aggression, having herself experienced a horrible war and being therefore able to share the suffering or the Vietnamese, victim of aggression. They were proud of their own contribution to Viet Nam's victory. "On learning this happy news, I wanted to hug all Vietnamese!" the famous Soviet writer Gamzatov wrote.

On March 26, 1973, a delegation of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam led by Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh made a state visit to the Soviet Uuion and was warmly received by the Soviet people. Such a manifestation of affection was fully appreciated by the South Vietnamese people. "The Vietnamese people's fight will go down in history as one of the most glorious pages of the national liberation movement of the world," wrote *Pravda*. The Supreme Soviet conferred on Mrs Nguyen Thi Binh the Medal of Friendship between Nations. Said Chairman A.V. Podgorny on this occasion: "In highly valuing your contributions I want to stress once again the deep feeling of friendship and respect felt by the Soviet people for the brotherly people of Viet Nam, for the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam." This was a new eulogy of the Soviet people to be added to the chronicle of the Vietnamese people's epic.

Our success brought an immense joy to the Soviet people. But this has been qualified since US imperialism has not yet given up its aggressive designs and its scheme to impose neo-colonialism on South Viet Nam. The Paris Agreement has been seriously torpedoed by the US and the Saigon administration. The ties of militant friendship between Viet Nam and the Soviet Union should be further strengthened and the South Vietnamese people pledge to bend all their efforts to this end.

The South Vietnamese people were gratified by the success of the visit to the Soviet Union of the Party and Government delegation of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in June last.

They were deeply moved by these heartfelt words of L. I. Brezhnev, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union: "In the war years, the strength and efficiency of the Soviet-Viet Nam friendship stood a convincing test. Now in the days of peace, we are resolved, together with our Vietnamese comrades, to further strengthen the brotherly ties between our two countries."

The Soviet people stood solidly by the Vietnamese people in the gruelling years of war, they are now sharing with the Vietnamese people the exultation of victory. It is therefore no exaggeration to say that the long-standing Viet Nam-Soviet friendship is acquiring now new strength and can expect a brilliant future.

With conviction and with deep gratitude toward the Soviet Union and on this occasion of the 56th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, described by President Ho Chi Minh as a beacon for our fight for freedom and happiness, the South Vietnamese people warmly wish the Soviet people full success in the fulfilment of the heavy tasks laid down by the 24th Congress of their Communist Party and in their building of a powerful and great Fatherland.

NGUYEN VAN THAN

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of South Viet Nam to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

8th WFTU Congress supports Viet Nam

THE 8th Congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions was held at Varna (Bulgaria) from October 15 to 22, 1973. It was attended by delegates from 93 countries representing 200 million toiling people in the world. The delegation of the Federation of Trade-Unions of Liberation of South Viet Nam led by Tran Hoai Nam, member of the Standing Committee of the Federation, was also present.

The Congress unanimously passed a resolution on the solidarity with, and support to, the present fight of the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia.

The resolution stressed: "The 8th WFTU Congress welcomes the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam." It denounced the military presence of the US and its interference in the internal affairs of South Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia and its attempt to impose a neo-colonialist regime on the Indochinese peoples.

The resolution called on the toiling masses and TU organizations the world over to stand firm by the side of the toilers and peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia.

It demanded that the US and the Saigon administration strictly respect the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam, end forthwith encroachment operations on the liberated areas, guarantee democratic freedoms for the people under their sway and return the political detainees still in their jails. On that occasion, the WFTU presented to the South Vietnamese people a sum of 10,000 dollars as its contribution to heal the war wounds and rebuild the liberated zone of South Viet Nam.

8th Congress of the WFTU (general view)

SOUTH VIET NAM CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION